ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

MT. CARMEL

Baptist Association

HELD WITH

CAVE SPRING CHURCH

Madison County, Alabama

October 12, 13, and 14

1900

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OFFICERS

Moderator, J. E. JONES, Esq.

Clerk Rev. J. H. VANN, New Hope, Ala:

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1900

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AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

MINUTES.

OF THE

Twenty-Fourth Annual Session

OF THE

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Cave Spring Baptist Church

October 12, 13, and 14,

1900.

J. E. JONES, Moderator, Garth, Ala.
REV. J. H. VANN, Clerk, New Hope, Ala.

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Scottsboro, Ala.

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MINUTES.

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Association met with Cave Spring Baptist Church October 12, 1900, at 11 a. m. Introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. W. A. Pigg, from I Timothy, 6-12. Refreshments.

At 2 p. m. the Association was called to order by the Moderator and we sang "How firm a foundation." The Association was led in prayer by Rev. L. D. Vann.

ENROLLMENT.

Antioch——

Cave Spring—J. H. Hose, J. W. Cowan, Rev. L. D. Vann.

Cedar Point—J. H. Atchley, T. Christian, Rev. F. J. Rigney.

Cedar Grove, Sr.—T. J. Vann, Rev. R. C. Clark.

Cedar Grove, Jr.—Rev. J. W. Campbell.

Hale's Cove—J. H. Gwathney.

Mt. Pleasant—L. Harrison, D. Flurnoy, Rev. W. A. Pigg.

Mt. Zion—Letter, no delegate.

Mountain Grove—J. E. Terry, G. H. Blackburn, Rev. J. H. Vann.

New Prospect—R. W. Winkles, S. B. Evans.

Pleasant Mount—J. S. Renfroe, Lee Isbell.

Union—J. E. Jones, J. T. Keel, Rev. J. L. Jones.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

J. E. Jones, Moderator.

Rev. J. H. Vann, Clerk.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Devotional Committee—Pastor and deacons of Cave Spring Church.

Committee on Finance—J. H. Hose, Rev. L. D. Vann.

Committee on Sunday School—J. T. Keel, Rev. J. H. Vann.

Committee on Synopsis of Church Letters—Rev. J. W. J. H. Gwathney, Rev. J. W. Campbell

Committee on Mission—Revs. J. L. Jones, L. D. Vann, W. A Pigg.

Committee on Nominations—J. E Terry, R. W. Winkles, G. H. Blackburn.

Committee on Temperance—Lee Isbell, T. J Vann, D. Flurnoy.

Committee on Correspondence—J T. Keel, J. S. Renfroe, Rev. J. H Vann

Committee on Obituaries—J. W. Cowan, R. W. Winkles, Rev. J. W Campbell

Committee on Periodicals—J. H. Gwathney, L Harrison, Rev. J. L. Jones.

On motion of Rev J L. Jones, the Association was adjourned until Saturday morning, 8:30 a. m.

Prayer by Rev. J. H. Vann; Benediction, Rev. W. A. Pigg

SATURDAY MORNING, 8:30.

The Association assembled and sang "O, for a closer walk with God." Prayer was offered by Brother Lee Isbell. The roll was called, a quorum being present the Association was duly opened.

The minutes were read and approved. On motion of Rev. J. H. Vann intermission was given for one hour for the benefit of committees.

At 10 a. m. the Association was again called to order. Committee on Sabbath School Work reported as follows

We find but three Sunday Schools represented in Mt. Carmel Association. We firmly believe this to be a great neglect upon the part of the churches, which is detering our advancement on Christian and denominational lines. We therefore recommend and earnestly insist that every church in this Association make greater efforts in the future to organize and maintain Sunday Schools than ever before. We realize at this time that all surroundings and even the vital interests of our children demand our attention along this line of work.

Rev. J. H Vann, Chairman,
J. T. Keel.
Committee.

After reading the recommendations of the report it was favorably supported by strong and emphasizing speeches from Revs. J. W. Campbell, Brother G. H. Blackburn, and Rev. J. Warren, Methodist. Adopted on motion of Rev. J. L. Jones.

At 11 a. m sermon by Rev. J. W Campbell, from St. Mark 4th chapter, 3rd verse. Theme, Sowing Seed, Bearing Fruit.

After refreshment the Association again assembled with song; prayer was offered by Rev. J. Warren

REPORT ON SYNOPSIS OF CHURCH LETTERS.

We find but little said about Sunday Schools and nothing about prayer-meetings or missions; but that the Lord has bountifully blessed the churches this year, and we trust many souls have been saved from sin and the churches won-

derfully revived and strengthened in the faith and in the doctrine

Rev. J. W. Campbell, Ch'n
J. H. Gwathney.

On motion of T. J. Vann the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We learn from God's holy word that wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. We learn also that no drunkard can enter the kingdom of heaven. We further learn from reading God's holy word that whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. Therefore if we sow whisky we shall reap drunkards; therefore we should abstain from intoxicants, and also abstain from the very appearance of evil of every nature, as taught in God's word. Above all, brethren, abstain from strong drink for it is one of the greatest curses of our land. We pray that each member abstain from every appearance of evil and from the use of strong drink. Submitted.

Lee Isbell, Chairman.
T. J. Vann.

Supporters: Revs. J W. Campbell, J H. Vann, J Warren. Adopted on motion of J. T. Keel.

On motion of Rev. J. H. Vann the Association was adjourned until 7 p. m.

At 7 p. m. the Association reassembled and was led in prayer by Rev. L. D. Vann

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

We heartily favor Missions, and know of no better plan than the gospel plan, as given by the blessed Son of God, who said in his word, "Go into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature." We sincerely hope and

insist that the several churches of this Association will contribute of their means to the support of their pastors, which will insure the preaching of the gospel in all places of destitution in the bounds of this Association, and its several churches will receive the bread of life through its ministry. While we recommend an evangelist, we think it our duty to first consider whether we are able and willing to employ an evangelist, if not so, loose him and let him go. Submitted.

Rev. J. L. Jones, Chairman.
Rev. L. D. Vann,
Rev. W. A. Pigg.

Spoken to by Revs. J. H Vann, J W Campbell, J. L. Jones and Bro. G. H. Blackburn. Report was adopted. Pledges for Domestic Missions, $35.00. A mission board was elected to supervise the work.

Rev. J. H. Vann, Ch'm, New Hope, Ala.
G. H. Blackburn, New Hope, Ala.
Rev. W. A. Pigg, Nat, Ala.

Board.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

For Minutes, $10.27. Rev. L. D. Vann, Chairman.
Rev. J. H. Huse.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE.

We recommend correspondence with Liberty Association. Submitted.

Rev. J. E. Vann, Chairman.
J. T. Keel,
J. H. Gawthney.

Report was adopted. Delegates appointed: G. H. Blackburn, Rev. J. H. Vann, and L. D. Vann.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

We learn that the good Lord has called from labor here to the happy beyond six of our beloved brothers and sisters to-wit: Rev. J. G. Blackburn, Sallie Jones, Mollie Horton, Annie Glover, Frank Mitchell and A. P. Baker. To us a great loss, but to them a great gain therefore, let us bow in humble submission to Him, "who doeth all things well."

Submitted.

Rev. J. W. Campbell, Chairman.
R. W. Winkles.
J. W. Cowan.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PERIODICALS.

We recommend the careful and prayerful study of the Holy Bible, the book of God. Also, The Sword and Shield, a Baptist paper published in Tyler, Texas. We also recommend the use of the Sunday School Helps, prepared by the Baptist Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn. We also insist that the members of the churches abstain from novels, as we believe them to be hurtful in their influence.

Rev. J. L. Jones, Chairman.
J. H. Gwathney.
L. Harrison.

On motion the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We recommend New Prospect church as the place of the next meeting of this body: Rev. J. L. Jones to preach introductory sermon, Rev. L. D. Vann, alternate. Rev. J. H. Vann to preach mission sermon Saturday, Rev. W. A. Pigg, alternate.

J. E. Terry, Chairman.
R. W. Winkles.
J. D. Renfroe.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and hereby tendered to Cave Spring Church and community for the kindness shown us and the generous way they cared for us during our stay among them. May the blessings of God abide with them. REV. J. W. CAMPBELL.

Unanimously adopted.

On motion of Rev. J. L. Jones the Association was adjourned by prayer, Rev. J. W. Campbell leading.

The entire session was characterized by brotherly love and good feeling toward each other, and all seemed to be glad to be here We trust this has been a session of telling effect.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 11 A. M.

Rev. J H. Vann preached the missionary sermon to a large and appreciative congregation with telling effect. Text. Matthew 3:3; theme, God's proposed way of saving man. Collection $4.50.

SUNDAY, 7 P. M.

Rev. J L. Jones preached at the church. Theme: Christ the resurrection and the life

NEXT SESSION.

The Mt. Carmel Association will meet with New Prospect church, Marshall county, Ala., on Thursday before the second Sunday in October at 11 a. m., 1901: introductory, Rev. J. L. Jones.

UNION MEETING OF 1901.

Union Meeting of 1901 will meet with Cedar Point church, Madison county, on Friday at 11 a. m., before the fourth Sunday in July. Introductory sermon, Rev J. W. Campbell.

EXHORTATION

Brethren, the Lord has abundantly blessed us this year. We should thank God and take courage, be zealous in the dispensation of our labors in the vineyard of the Lord, pressing onward, that when we meet in 1901 we may come rejoicing, with joy upon our heads, and that the Lord may say, Well done.

REV. J. H. VANN, CLERK.
Garth, Ala.

REV. J. E. JONES, MODERATOR.
New Hope, Ala.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one living and true God—Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe that by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, and so death has passed upon all, for all have sinned.

4. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and through his meritorious death the way of Salvation is opened for God to have mercy upon all that come unto Him upon gospel terms.

5 Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

6. We believe the saints shall persevere in grace and that none of them will be finally lost.

7 We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the saints and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

8 We believe the church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, who have obtained fellowship of one another and have given themselves to the Lord and to one another, having agreed to keep up a godly discipline, according to the will of God in gospel discipline.

9. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Great Head of the church, and the government thereof is with the body.

10. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects for baptism and that immersion is the gospel mode.

11. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

12. We believe that the Lord's day ought to be kept holy and set apart for worship; that no works shall be done except works of piety.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. Each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. None shall be admitted as delegates but such as come recommended by letter from the church to which they belong.

3. Churches petitioning by letter for admission, if found orderly and sound Baptist Churches, may be admitted, and the Moderator, in behalf of the Association, shall extend the right hand of fellowship to the delegates and invite them to seats.

4. All who have anything to offer shall rise to their feet and address the Moderator.

5. While one is speaking the others must keep silent; yet all men have an equal right to speak in turn.

6. No partiality or respect of persons is to be shown, but every subject is to be discussed with gravity and modesty, and a sincere aim after truth.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the mover.

8. There shall be no debate permitted, without a motion or resolution written or understood by the body.

9. The Moderator shall be a judge of order, and shall call to order any person whom he deems out of order. There may be an appeal from his judgment to the body.

10. When there is a motion under discussion, no motion is in order except to amend, postpone or adjourn.

11. In time of business, no member should leave the house without leave of the Moderator.

12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association.

13. The Moderator has the right to speak on any subject, provided he fills the chair, not without. He can not vote except in case of a tie.

14. All petitions sent up on church letters shall be prayerfully considered and answered.

15. If the Moderator fails to carry out and enforce the rules of order he may be reminded of it respectfully by any member of the body.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading letters from churches and recording the names of the Messengers.

2. Election of Moderator and Clerk.

3. Appointment of committees.

4. Call for petitionary letters.

5. Call for correspondence and inviting visiting brethren to seats.

6. Report of standing committees.

7. Report of executive committee.

8. Report of Evangelist.

9. Report of committees appointed at this session
10. Election of evangelist and executive committee.
11. Appointment of correspondence.
12. Appointment of time and place of holding next session.
13. Appointment of brother to preach the Introductory and Missionary Sermons.
14 Miscellaneous business.

CONSTITUTION.

We. as a part of the churches of Jesus Christ, of North Alabama, having been thrown together as an association of chuches, that we may be better enabled to promote the cause of Christ, do adopt the following constitution:

Article 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, who upon producing thier letters, shall be entitled to seats.

Art. 2 The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of Mount Carmel Association, whose power shall be to act as an advisory counsel, and to control the means placed at their hands for associational and missionary purposes, and to receive other churches when properly qualified.

Art. 3. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, chosen by the churches they represent.

Art 4. The officers of this body shall consist of a Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk, who shall be chosen, annually from the members of this body, and hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

Art. 5. The Moderator shall not be eligible to two terms in succession.

Art. 6. Churches may be admitted to membership by petitionary letter and delegates with the unanimous consent of the body.

Art. 7. The association may adopt any scriptural measures to raise means for associational or missionary purposes.

Art. 8. The association shall elect one of its members annually to preach an introductory sermon and an alternate, and one to preach a missionary sermon on the Sabbath, and an alternate

Art. 9. A majority of the churches composing this Association must be represented to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 10. Delegates from any of the churches without letters, may be admitted without letters by a two-thirds vote of the body.

Art. 11. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the body.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.

J. W. Brown, New Hope, Ala.
R. C. Clark, New Hope, Ala.
D. F. Treece, New Hope, Ala.
J. H. Vann, New Hope, Ala
L D. Vann, Owens X Roads, Ala.
F. J. Rigney, Berkley, Ala.
W. A. Pigg, Nat, Ala.
J L. Jones, Garth, Ala.
H. H. Bridges, Pisgah, Ala
S. P. Wilson, Swearengin, Ala.

LICENTIATES.

J. N. Vandiver, Pisgah, Ala.
Jas. Lee, Gurley, Ala.
A. Moring, Gurley, Ala
Jas. Friar, Lowe, Ala.

STATISTICS OF MT. CARMEL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1900.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	Membership Last Reported.	Increase				Decrease				Membership Present.	SUNDAY SCHOOLS.			Preaching Sabbaths.	Reports prayer meeting.	Reports revival.	For Minutes.
						Baptism	Letter	Vanchur	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Erasure	Death		Officers and Teachers.	Pupils.	Superintendent's Name and Postoffice.				
Antioch	Morgan	County		J E Crow	Crowton	40								40							
Cedar Grove, Sr	Madison	"	L Vann	J B Brown	New Hope	112	1			1			2	110				2			35
Cedar Grove, Jr	"	"	J W Campbell	J R Campbell	Molder	36	1			7	1		1	26	3			1		1	50
Cedar Point	"	"	D F Treece	F J Rigney	Poplar Ridge	35	3			1			1	49				2		1	15
Cave Spring	"	"	J H Vann	J F Jenkens	Owens X Roads	114	9			1	6	13	1	93	6	50	Rev. L. D. Vann	1		1	20
Mountain Grove	"	"	J H Vann	C Blackburn	New Hope	46	2	1		1	2		1	45	6	45	C. R. Blackburn	3		1	00
Mt. Pleasant	Jackson	"	J W Campbell	W J Gwathney	Paint Rock	15	7	9		2				33				1		1	75
Mt. Zion	"	"	F J Rigney	W T Peers		19	1			2	6			12				1		1	17
New Prospect	Marshal	"	J H Vann	S B Evans	swearengin	46	3	6			1			43	4	40	G. K. Dowdy	2		1	00
Hales Cove	Jackson	"	W A Pigg	O S Wells	Paint Rock	14	0							14				1			40
Pleasant Mt.	Madison	"	J L Jones	Walter Bell	Gurley	72	6	2		2				78				1		1	35
Union	Jackson	"	J H Vann	J T Keel	Garth	39	15	15		1	3		2	65	4	35	Billie Keel	4	1	1	50
Total						592	59	33	8	18	16	13	8	608	23	170				9	9 37

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